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OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHVB #0676 2681352
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 241352Z SEP 08
FM AMEMBASSY ZAGREB
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8642
INFO RUEANHA/FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHINGTON DC
RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 1017
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0966

UNCLAS ZAGREB 000676

DEPT FOR EUR/ACE (WESTLEY) AND EB/TRA (GUSTAVSON)
BRUSSELS AND MOSCOW FOR FAA REP
FAA FOR AFS-50/API-1/AGC-7
DOT /OST FOR X45/C20

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAIR](#) [ECON](#) [HR](#)

SUBJECT: CROATIA CIVAIR: FAA LETTER DELIVERED TO GOC WITH RESULTS
OF INTERNATIONAL AVIATION SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Ref: STATE 101327

1. Per reftel, Pol/Econ Counselor and Econ Officer delivered the letter from the Director of FAA Flight Standards Service to State Secretary Drazen Breglec on September 24, and informed him of the imminent release of Croatia's IASA Category 2 rating. Emboffs urged him to keep the embassy appraised of Croatia's progress in reforming its civil aviation authority, and offered to continue to act as a liaison with the FAA as Croatia works to bring its regulations and oversight system into accordance with international standards.

2. State Secretary Breglec informed Emboffs that Croatia's first priority would be to conduct reforms necessary to bring the country into compliance with EU accession requirements, but that many these reforms overlapped with the areas identified by FAA. (NOTE: AN EU inspection team is in Croatia now. END NOTE.) The ministry plans to move first on enacting the necessary amendments to aviation legislation, and also to complete the organization and staffing of the new Civil Aviation Agency. The new agency will be ready to start work within two months, according to Breglec. To staff inspections requirements, Breglec said Croatia would likely look to "share" personnel with other countries, specifically by hiring qualified personnel including pilots, mechanics, or air traffic controllers from abroad to perform the actual inspections. Breglec stated that Croatia plans to have all necessary reforms identified by the EU completed by March 2009, and that he hopes an FAA reassessment might be possible by the middle of 2009.

BRADTKE